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(54) Method and apparatus for combining acknowledge packets in a network

(57) A method and an apparatus that improves a data transmission rate in a TCP connection having an asymmetrical path. An intermediate node transmits a predetermined number k of data packets to a destination node, and measures a time period A between transmitting the k data packets and receiving a receipt acknowledgment signal at the intermediate node indicating receipt of the k data packets at the destination node. The intermediate node then transmits to a source node k acknowledgement signals with a time interval of A/k between each acknowledgement signal.

FIG. 1



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 97 30 5578

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.6)
A	MILOUCHEVA I ET AL: "PROTOCOL MECHANISMS FOR RELIABLE TRANSMISSION AND FLOW CONTROL ON MULTIMEDIA HIGHWAYS" PROCEEDINGS OF THE 1996 IEEE FIFTEENTH ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL PHOENIX CONFERENCE ON COMPUTERS AND COMMUNICATIONS, SCOTTSDALE, MAR. 27 - 29, 1996, no. CONF. 15, 27 March 1996, pages 239-245, XP000594795 INSTITUTE OF ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONICS ENGINEERS * page 239, left-hand column, line 30 - page 239, right-hand column, line 25 * * page 240, left-hand column, line 19 - page 240, right-hand column, line 12 * ---	1-4	H04L12/56
A	US 5 442 637 A (NGUYEN MAI-HUONG) 15 August 1995 * column 5, line 11 - column 6, line 16 * * column 3, line 30 - column 3, line 48 * * column 2, line 7 - column 2, line 26 * ---	1,2,4	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6)
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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims

Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner
THE HAGUE	19 March 1999	Brichau, G

CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS

X : particularly relevant if taken alone
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ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO. EP 97 30 5578

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19-03-1999

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For more details about this annex.: see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82